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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s): Schwartz et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/938,274

ART UNIT:

FILING DATE: August 23, 2001

EXAMINER:

TITLE: SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

ATTORNEY

DOCKET NO.: 770P009577-US (C01)

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Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))**

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

Several references, listed below are being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

JP63015386
JP1309195
JP63015387
U.S. Patent No. 5,085,470
JP62060084
JP4016394
JP6191120

Copies of abstracts for these references and a copy of the cited U.S. patent, are enclosed together with a Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's use.

The filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made regarding the claimed invention (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)) or that no other possible material information exists. In addition, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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1/16/02
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope address to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 1/16/02

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION FORM FOR
PATENT APPLICATION
(FORM PTO-1449)
(Substitute)**

Docket No.: 770P009577-US (C01)

Serial No.: 09/938,274

Applicant(s): Schwartz et al.

Filing Date: 8/23/01

Group: 2161

U.S. PATENTS

| Initials | Patent Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub-class | Filing date |
|----------|------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| | 5,085,470 | 2/4/92 | Peach et al. | 283 | 58 | 2/4/91 |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Initials | Document Number | Date | Country | Name | Translation? Yes/No/n/a |
|----------|-----------------|----------|---------|------|----------------------------|
| | JP63015386 | 12/20/94 | Japan | | no |
| | JP1309195 | 8/16/89 | Japan | | no |
| | JP63015387 | 1/3/89 | Japan | | no |
| | JP62060084 | 9/28/90 | Japan | | no |
| | JP4016394 | 1/21/92 | Japan | | no |
| | JP6191120 | 7/12/94 | Japan | | no |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Title, Author, Date, Pages, Etc., if known)

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Examiner's Signature:

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Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered.

Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).